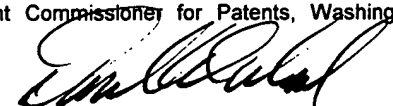
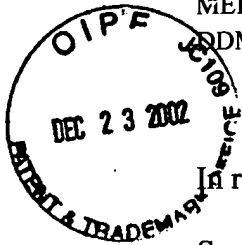


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AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Small Entity)			Docket No. DDM00-031		
Applicant(s): Spencer Andrew Meister and David Alan Tracy					
Serial No 09/644,594	Filing Date August 23, 2000		Examiner Butler, Michael E.	Group Art Unit 2456	
Invention: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING ITEMS OF VALUE IN COOPERATION WITH OPERATION OF A COMPANION DEVICE					
<u>TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</u>					
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity status of this application has been established under 37 CFR 1.27 by a verified statement previously submitted.					
<input type="checkbox"/> A verified statement to establish Small Entity status under 37 FR 1.27 is enclosed.					
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.					
CLAIMS AS AMENDED					
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	17 -	20 =	0 x	\$9.00	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	3 -	3 =	0 x	\$42.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____					
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501562					
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.					
Signature Donald D. Mondul Reg. No. 29,957 Attorney for Applicants			Dated: December 16, 2002		
RECEIVED DEC 26 2002 GROUP 3600					
<div>I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on Dec 16, 2002 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.  Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence Donald D. Mondul Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</div>					
CC:					



MEISTER & TRACY
DDM00-031

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of)

Spencer Andrew Meister and)
David Alan Tracy)

For: APPARATUS AND
METHOD FOR PROVIDING
ITEMS OF VALUE IN
COOPERATION WITH
OPERATION OF A COMPANION
DEVICE

Examiner: Butler, Michael E.

Serial No. 09/644,594)

Group Art Unit: 2456

Filed: August 23, 2000)

AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated September 16, 2002, please amend the
above-identified application as set forth hereinbelow.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 2.

Please amend Claims 1, 3 - 8 and 18 - 20 as follows:

1. (Amended) An apparatus for dispensing at least one indicium of value in cooperation
with operation of an attached companion device for delivering at least one first product to
a user substantially contemporaneously with said dispensing; the apparatus comprising:

- (a) a control means for controlling said dispensing;
- (b) a providing means for effecting said dispensing; said providing means being
coupled with said control means; and
- (c) a link between the apparatus and said companion device for effecting said
cooperation.

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